

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 2483

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT PINR PFOR PGOV GV  
SUBJ: FURTHER GUINEAN GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES

REF: CONAKRY 2432

1. SUMMARY: DECEMBER GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLES HAVE FILLED TWO TOP-LEVEL POSTS VACATED IN LAST SUMMER'S PURGE. CHANGES STRIKE NOTE OF NORMALCY CAPPING SEVERAL MONTHS LULL AFTER EARLIER "PLOT" HYSTERIA. TOURE'S RELIANCE ON PROVEN BLOOD RELATIVES AT TOP PREVAILS. PRESENCE OF A FEW FOULAHS AMONG RECENT APPOINTEES SHOWS LIMITS TO TOURE'S STILL -SMOULDERING CAMPAIGN AGAINST "RACISM"(IE, FOULAH TRIBAL SOLIDARITY). TOURE NOW HAS GOG AGAIN NEARLY FULLY STAFFED LOOKING TOWARD MAY 1977 PDG 30TH ANNIVERSARY, DESPITE BIZARRE SACKING OF YOUTH MINISTER FOR FOOTBALL LOSS TO ALGERIA. END SUMMARY

2. IN FURTHER GOG MINISTERIAL CHANGES DECEMBER 17, N'FALY SANGARE BECAME MINISTER OF PLAN AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION, FILLING VACANCY CREATED BY ARREST OF ALIOUNE DRAME IN JULY. (COMMENT: SANGARE'S MAIN ECONOMIC MOVE DURING BANK TENURE WAS WITHDRAWAL OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF SYLIS (LOCAL CURRENCY) FROM CIRCULATION IN ATTEMPT TO WIPE OUT BLACK MARKET. THIS HAS

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WORKED TO SOME EXTENT, IN THAT SYLI BLACK MARKET RATE IS SOMEWHAT LOWER--BUT HAS NOT ALLEVIATED GUINEA'S CHRONIC ECONOMIC WOES. MOVE IS NOT NECESSARILY PROMOTION FOR SANGARE. FORMERLY, AS MINISTER-GOVERNOR OF GUINEA'S CENTRAL BANK, HE WAS ONE OF TWO ORDINARY MINISTERS REPORTING DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT TOURE AND WAS AT HEART OF GOG'S

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS. NOW SANGARE REPORTS MERELY TO PRIME MINISTER IN JOB WITH LESS REAL CONTENT, ESPECIALLY SINCE CURRENT PLAN IS LONG SINCE FORMULATED AND IN FACT MORIBUND. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT MAY HAVE WISHED TO INSTALL CLOSER CONFIDANT IN PLACE OF PURGE VICTIM DRAKE; SANGARE IS MARRIED TO SISTER OF PRESIDENT'S WIFE AND, ALTHOUGH PRONE TO RAKEOFFS AND KICKBACKS FROM FOREIGN FIRMS, HAS SEEMED SPECIALLY FEARFUL OF CROSSING THE PRESIDENT. PRESIDENT'S RELIANCE ON CIRCLE OF RELATIVES AT TOP NOW MORE OBVIOUS THAN EVER, WITH ABDOULAYE TOURE, COUSIN (NEW EXCHANGE DOMAIN MINISTER, SEE REFTEL) JOINING SANGARE, MOUSSA DIAKITE, SAIDOU KEITA, AND MAMADI KEITA, BROTHERS-IN-LAW, ISMAIL TOURE, HALF-BROTHER, AND SIAKA TOURE, NEPHEW, IN KEY SLOTS.)

3. MOMORY CAMARA, FORMERLY VICE GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK, REPLACES SANGARE AS GOVERNOR. CAMARA DOES NOT GET MINISTER TITLE HOWEVER, WHICH WAS ADDED AS SIGN OF PRESIDENT'S FAVOR TOWARD SANGARE IN 1975 AFTER LATTER HAD HEADED BANK FOR THREE YEARS. CAMARA HAS BEEN LESS STICKY TO DEAL WITH THAN SANGARE FROM STANDPOINT OF WESTERN CLIENTS. SECOND IN-HOUSE PROMOTION IS SAIKOU BARRY AS BANK'S VICE-GOVERNOR, FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF BANK'S STUDIES OFFICE.

4. NEW MINISTER OF FOREIGN COMMERCE SORIBA TOURE WAS FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF BANK'S STUDIES OFFICE.

4. NEW MINISTER OF FOREIGN COMMERCE SORIBA TOURE WAS FORMERLY DIRECTOR GENERAL, DIVISION OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE PRESIDENCY, ONE OF TWO INFLUENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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ECONOMIC POLICY STAFF BODIES (THE OTHER, UNDER ISMAEL TOURE, SEEMS MORE WESTERN-ORIENTED), AND HAS HELD SEVERAL LESSER ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL POSTS.

5. AMONG NEW AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS, MOUSSA SANGUIANA CAMARA, TO UNITED NATIONS, ODDLY ENOUGH IS OR WAS HUSBAND OF PREDECESSOR IN POST JEANNE MARTIN CISSE (THIS MARITAL BOND IS REPORTEDLY TENUOUS). CAMARA, WHOM GOG MEDIA ANNOUNCED JUST PREVIOUS WEEK (REFTEL) AS GOVERNOR OF FRIA, IS LACKLUSTER OLDGUARD PARTY MILITANT (AGE 53) WHO HAS HELD A VARIETY OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNORSHIPS AND WAS AMBASSADOR TO PRC AND OTHER ASIAN-COMMUNIST STATES. ALTHOUGH HE MOVED THROUGH RESPONSIBLE POSTS EARLIER AND SEEMED TO SOME WILY AND EFFICIENT, HE HAS BECOME A SHUFFLING HASBEEN WHO SEEMS NEITHER AS PERSONABLE OR ALERT AS MME. CISSE. ONE WELL-CONNECTED WESTERN AMBASSADOR HAS GIVEN A VERY LOW ESTIMATE OF CAMARA'S CURRENT CAPACITIES. PRESIDENT TOURE HAS REPORTEDLY STATED IN

PRIVATE HE IS SENDING CAMARA TO UN SINECURE "TO GIVE HIM A REST."

6. NEW PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS ARE ALECAUT BANGOURA (FRIA), OUSMANE SOUARE (MAMOU) AND AGUIBOU SOW (DABOLA, CORRECTING LAST WEEK'S ANNOUNCED ASSIGNMENT TO KISSIDOUGOU); PRESIDENT'S POLICY IS FAIRLY RAPID ROTATION IN PROVINCIAL POSTS LEST SINGLE POLITICAN BECOME TOO WELL ENTRENCHED. ABOU SOMPAIRE, AN EDUCATION-SECTOR MILITANT, BECOMES DIRECTOR OF "VOICE OF THE REVOLUTION."

7. ON LESS RATIONAL NOTE, PRESIDENT FIRED TOUMANY SANGARE, MINISTER OF YOUTH, ART AND SPORT DECEMBER 26, CHARGING THAT "TREASON" AND "FAILURE OF RESPONSIBILITY" HAD INFECTED HAFIA FOOTBALL CLUB AND SPORTS FEDERATION IN LOSS TO ALGIERS IN KWAME NKRUMAH CUP PLAYOFF WEEK BEFORE. FORMER MINISTER OF DEFENSE, CC MEMBER SANGARE HAD ACQUIRED REPUTATION OF BEING AMONG MORE LEFTIST OR PRO-SOVIET GUINEAN OFFICIALS. CONFIDENTIAL

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